

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-11, and add new claims 12-31, as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (New) An ibopamine maleate salt having a molar ratio of ibopamine to maleate of 1:1.

Claim 13 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
the ibopamine maleate salt according to claim 12; and
at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Claim 14 (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the ibopamine maleate salt is present in an amount of 0.01-6 wt. %.

Claim 15 (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the ibopamine maleate salt is present in an amount of 0.1-5 wt. %.

Claim 16 (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, which is in a dosage form selected from the group consisting of an ointment and an eye drop.

Claim 17 (New) A mydriatic ophthalmic composition comprising the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13.

Claim 18 (New) A method of inducing mydriasis comprising administering to an eye of a patient the mydriatic ophthalmic composition according to claim 17.

Claim 19 (New) A process for preparing the ibopamine maleate salt according to claim 12, wherein said process comprises addition of a maleic acid solution to an ibopamine base solution, wherein the maleic acid solution comprises maleic acid and a first organic solvent, wherein the ibopamine base solution comprises an ibopamine base and a second organic solvent, and wherein the ibopamine base and the maleic acid are in a molar ratio of 1:1.

Claim 20 (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein the first organic solvent and the second organic solvent is acetone.

Claim 21 (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein said addition is carried out under an inert atmosphere.

Claim 22 (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein said addition is carried out at room temperature.

Claim 23 (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein said addition is carried out with stirring.

Claim 24 (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein said process further comprises isolation of the ibopamine maleate salt.

Claim 25 (New) The process according to claim 24, wherein said isolation comprises removal of the first organic solvent and the second organic solvent by evaporation.

Claim 26 (New) The process according to claim 24, wherein said isolation comprises precipitation of the ibopamine maleate salt.

Claim 27 (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein said precipitation is carried out by addition of a non-solvent.

Claim 28 (New) The process according to claim 27, wherein the non-solvent is ethyl ether.

Claim 29 (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein said precipitation is carried out by a dropwise addition of a non-solvent with stirring.

Claim 30 (New) The process according to claim 29, wherein the non-solvent is ethyl ether.

Claim 31 (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein said isolation further comprises filtration of the ibopamine maleate salt.